(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for which Government have taken such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The use of drug coated stents began in India in June 2001. Though there has been increase in the use of medicated stents in relation to non-medicated stents from about 8% in 2002 to 38% in 2003, there is no evidence to show indiscriminate use of these stents. However, evidence based, context specific, resource sensitive guidelines are being developed in consultation with eminent experts in the filed.

Shortage of Medicines in Delhi

†566. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there has been shortage of ten medicines for various diseases including depression, cancer, heart diseases, T.B. etc. since January, 2005 in Delhi and in other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Shortage of psychotropic drugs (benzodiazepines in particular) and anti cancer drug namely Leukeran, Myleran and Alkeran tablets have been reported to the Drugs Control Department of Delhi.

(b) Shortage of psychotropic drugs (benzodiazepines) was reported to be because of difficulties expressed by traders in maintaining records, required under the NDPS Act. Shortage of anti cancer drugs was reported to be because of dis-continuance of the import of these drugs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The Drugs Control Department, Delhi convened a meeting in which representatives of manufacturers of psychotropic drugs, representatives of Chemists Associations and ACP (Narcotic) participated. It was impressed upon the traders that the supply of drugs be maintained as far as possible.

Black marketing of medicine from AIIMS

567. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that medicines intended for use of "Government supply" were reportedly being sold in the open market by AIIMS's employees along with certain workers of chemist shops located outside hospital premises;

(b) if so, the preventive measures Government have taken till date to stop pilferage of Government supply as well as open sale of certain sub-standard/fake medicines to patients by chemist shops; and

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted by Government into all such matters and, if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In the last few years, AIIMS have been receiving complaints about the availability of medicines meant for supply at AIIMS in places outside the AIIMS. The institute has been taking up the matter with various agencies including CBI and Delhi Police. As reported in a news item appeared in Hindustan Times on January 20, 2005, Delhi Police intimated the institute about the arrest of three employees of AIIMS on 19.1.2005 *viz.* (1) Shri Praveen Kumar, Senior Pharmacist, (2) Shri Radhey Shyam, Hospital Attendant Gr. I and (3) Shri Ram Krishan, Masalchee/Bearer Gr. II in a criminal case FIR No. 29/05 dated 18.1.2005 u/s 409/411/420/120B IPC. Another official Shri Ratan Singh, Sanitary Attendant Gr. II was also arrested on 29.1.2005 in a criminal case FIR No. 29/05 dated 18.1.2005 u/s 409/411/420/120B/ 201 IPC by the Police. Based on the information received from Delhi Police, all these officials have been kept under suspension.